

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) Elevator emergency stop device for an elevator cage guided on a guide rail, comprising:

a wedge-shaped element movable relative to the elevator cage to effect an emergency stop of said elevator cage by frictional force by means of a contact face of a sliding part thereof being pressed against said guide rail[[,]];

wherein said wedge-shaped element includes a first side and a second side, the first side including the contact face and the second side being a tapering side opposite the first side, ~~and~~

wherein said wedge-shaped element comprises a fixed part and a movable part, the movable part including the contact face and being movable relative to the fixed part along an inclined face of the fixed part, such that a dimension of said wedge-shaped element in the direction perpendicular to said contact face is changed in accordance with braking force to maintain the braking force at a substantially constant level[[.]], and

wherein said wedge-shaped element comprises a resilient element disposed between the fixed part and the movable part, the resilient element further comprising sliding elements disposed between the resilient element and the movable part and disposed between the resilient element and the fixed part.

2. (Previously presented) Elevator emergency stop device for an elevator cage guided on a guide rail, comprising:

a wedge-shaped element that effects an emergency stop of said elevator cage by frictional force by means of a contact face of a sliding part thereof being pressed against said guide rail,

wherein said wedge-shaped element comprises:

a mechanism whereby a dimension of said wedge-shaped element in the direction perpendicular to said contact face is changed in accordance with braking force to maintain the braking force at a substantially constant level, the mechanism comprising

a fixed part having an outside inclined face part of said wedge-shaped element;
and

a wedge-shaped movable part having said sliding part;

said movable part being movable along an inside inclined face part of said fixed part and an upper part thereof being engaged with said fixed part by means of a resilient element.

3. (Previously presented) Elevator emergency stop device according to claim 2,

wherein in said wedge-shaped element said fixed part and said resilient element, and said resilient element and said movable part are engaged by means of respective sliding elements between said resilient element and said movable element and between said resilient element and said fixed element.

4. (Original) Elevator emergency stop device according to claim 2 or 3, wherein in said resilient element a relationship between a load and a flexure is such that said flexure is small or zero up to a prescribed load and above said prescribed load said relationship between said load and said flexure is a practically proportional relationship.

5. (Previously presented) Elevator emergency stop device according to claim 4, wherein said resilient element comprises a piston in which is sealed gas that is given an initial pressure.

6-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) Elevator emergency stop device according to claim [[7]] 1, wherein said resilient element is configured to establish a relationship between a load and a flexure such that said flexure of said resilient element is small or zero up to a prescribed load, and flexure of said resilient element increases generally proportional to said load for loads above the prescribed load.

9. (Previously presented) Elevator emergency stop device according to claim 8, wherein said resilient element comprises a piston in which is a pressured gas.

10. (Previously presented) Elevator emergency stop device of claim 1,
wherein the movable part is movable relative to the fixed part in an oblique direction
relative to the guide rail.

11. (Canceled)